Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TUNIS 06053 241403Z

64
ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 IGA-02 AID-20 ACDA-19 OMB-01

EB-11 MC-02 TRSE-00 ABF-01 L-03 NEA-10 DRC-01 /132 W
---------- 064220
R 241245Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3512
SECDEF/ISA/DSAA/WASHDC
INFO USCINCEUR/VAIHINGEN GERMANY

S E C R E T TUNIS 6053

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, TS
SUBJECT: STATUS OF FY 74 MILITARY ASSISTANCE FUNDING

REF: STATE 200320

1. IN ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF THE PROGRAM OUTLINED IN PARA 5 OF REFTEL IT IS ASSUMED THAT SUPPLY OPERATIONS, GENERAL COSTS, AND TRAINING WILL BE FULLY FUNDDED AT PROGRAMMED FY 74 LEVELS. IT IS ALSO ASSUMED THAT 1.275 MILLION OF THE 17 MILLION VEHICLE REBUILD ALLOCATION IS PROGRAMMED FOR 6 M48 TANKS FOR TUNISIA.

2. UNDER THE ABOVE ASSUMPTIONS, THE IMMEDIATE IMPACT ON TUNISIA'S MILITARY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WOULD BE THE REDUCED FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (O AND M). RESIDUAL FY 73 FUNDS AVAILABLE IN DOLLAR LINES AMOUNT TO .117 MILLION WHICH USLOT ESTIMATES WILL BE SUFFICIENT THROUGH DEC 31 1973. MINIMUM ESSENTIAL O AND M FUNDS FOR THE 3RD AND 4TH QUARTERS OF FY 74 ARE ESTIMATED AT .408 MILLION OF WHICH .03 IS PRESENTLY FUNDED, LEAVING .378 MILLION REQUIRED. ANY PORTION OF THIS SUM NOT FUNDED BY MAP WOULD REQUIRE TIMELY NEGOTIATION OF A LOGISTICS SUPPORT AGREEMENT WITH THE GOT. IN THE ABSENCE OF FMS CREDITS, THIS IMMEDIATELY MOVES THE GOT FROM A GRANT AID TO A CASH SALE BASIS. THE SALES COST OF O & M WILL
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TUNIS 06053 241403Z

BE HIGHER THAN THE MAP ESTIMATES DUE TO ADDED COSTS OF ADMINIS-

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

TRATION, TRANSPORTATION, AND POSSIBLE COMMERCIAL SOURCE PURCHAS-
ING. THE LEAD TIME NECESSARY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LOGIS-
TICS SUPPORT AGREEMENT COULD RESULT IN A SHORTAGE OF PARTS UNTIL
THE PIPELINE WAS REPLENISHED.

3. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THE GOT MAY ELECT TO REDUCE CER-
TAIN OF ITS OPERATIONS WITH U.S. EQUIPMENT IN ORDER TO SAVE
BOTH CASH AND AVAILABLE SPARE PARTS. THE MOST LIKELY COURSE OF ACTION
WOULD BE TO CURTAIL OR EVEN CEASE ALL FLIGHT OPERATIONS WITH THE
F-86 SQUARDRON.

4. THE ARRIVAL OF NEW EQUIPMENT DURING FY 74, PARTICULARLY 13
M48 TANKS AND 2 UH-1H HELICOPTERS, WILL HOWEVER, REQUIRE MAIN-
TENANCE FUNDS IN ORDER TO INSURE CONTINOUS OPERATION OF THIS NEW
MATERIEL. ALTOGETHER, THE PIPELINE PRESENTLY CONTAINS 7.5 MILLION
DOLLARS OF UNDELIVERED MAJOR ITEMS, MOST OF WHICH ARE SCHEDULED
TO ARRIVE IN FY 74. A REDUCTION OR DELAY IN O&M FUNDS WILL CER-
TAINLY AFFECT THE EFFICIENT UTILIZATION OF THIS EQUIPMENT
AS WELL AS THAT ALREADY IN COUNTRY.

5. THE LONGER RANGE IMPACT OF THE MAP REDUCTION IS DIFFICULT TO
PREDICT SINCE AVAILABILITY AND TERMS OF FMS CREDITS TO REPLACE
LOST MAP FUNDS IS UNKNOWN. WHILE THE GOT IS PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE
FMS CREDITS, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT IT WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE UP
ALL THE CURTAILED MAP FUNDS. THIS WILL CERTAINILY BE TRUE IF M48
TANK FUNDS ARE NOT INCLUDED AS PART OF THE VEHICLE REBUILD PROGRAM.

6. CURRENTLY THE GOT IS PLANNING TO USE SOME OF ITS HOPED FOR
FMS CREDITS TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE OF A4 AIRCRAFT. A PRECIPITIOUS
CUT OFF OF GRANT AID WOULD DELAY OR CANCEL THIS PROJECT SINCE THE
GOT WILL THEN BE FACED WITH THE PROBLEM OF REORDERING ITS DEFENSE
PRIORITIES TO MATCH REDUCED RESOURCES. IN ANY EVENT, TAKING INTO
ACCOUNT THE REDUCED FY 73 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, THE PROJECTED
5-YEAR COMPLETION OF FORCE MODERNIZATION WILL BE PROLONGED FOR
2-3 YEARS. THIS ASSUMES, OF COURSE, THAT THE GOT ELECTS TO CON-
TINUE A TENUOUS PROGRAM FOR WHICH REASONABLE PLANNING FROM BOTH A
U.S. AND TUNISIAN VIEWPOINT IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT.

7. OF THE TWO OPTIONS DISCUSSED IN PARA 6 OF REF., REDUCTION OF
CAMBODIA'S REQUIREMENTS WOULD ASSIST THE TUNISIAN MAP TO THE
SECRET

SECRET

EXTENT IT PROFITED FROM A REDISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES. CANCELLA-
TION OF ON-GOING PRODUCTION PROJECTS WOULD MATERIALLY AFFECT
TUNISIAN FORCE DEVELOPMENT PLANS, SINCE PROVISION OF TANKS UNDER
THE VEHICLE REBUILD PROGRAM IS THE KEY TO THE REORGANIZATION OF
THE TUNISIAN ARMY INTO A BRIGADE STRUCTURE.

8. UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE POLITICAL IMPACT OF A PRECIPITOUS
CUT IN MAP WOULD BE TO AROUSE GOT SUSPICIONS THAT U.S. INTEREST

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

IN ITS SUCURITY AND STABILITY IS FLAGGING. DURING AND IMMEDIATELY
AFTER THE ARAB-ISRAELI WAR, A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN U.S. SECURITY
ASSISTANCE TO TUNISIA MIGHT WELL BE MISINTERPREDTED, DESPITE ANY
EXPLANATION WE MIGHT MAKE, AS PENALIZING TUNISIA FOR ITS SUPPORT
OF ITS FELLOW ARAB NATIONS AND AS INDICATION OF PRO-ISRAELI
BIAS OF U.S. GOVERNMENT AT THE EXPENSE OF ITS TRADITIONAL FRIENDS
IN ARAB WORLD.
SEELYE

SECRET

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TUNIS06053
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS SEELYE
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731013/aaaaajmz.tel
Line Count: 123
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 200320
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <24-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF FY 74 MILITARY ASSISTANCE FUNDING
TAGS: MARR, TS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005